



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 16, 2007

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Housing and Redevelopment Division, Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Interview Process For The Community Development And Human Services Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Reaffirming Establishment of the Community Development and Human Services Committee, Amending the Interview Process for Low Income Neighborhood Representative Applicants to the Committee, and Rescinding Resolution No. 06-085.

DISCUSSION:

The Community Development and Human Services Committee (CDHSC) is made up of thirteen community members who advise City Council on how Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Human Service funds should be allocated; assist staff in performance monitoring to ensure quality of service and contract compliance; provide input to City Council and staff on the assessment of community needs, priorities and goals; and foster, when possible, integration, coordination and cooperation of human service providers in the City of Santa Barbara.

CDHSC members are appointed and fill a need in the following categories:

- African-American Community
- Latino Community
- Business Community/Economic Development
- Human Services Agencies
- Youth-Oriented Services
- Senior Community
- Housing Interests

REVIEWED BY: _____ Finance _____ Attorney

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- Disabled Community (as the term "disabled" is defined by State laws)
- Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara (appointed by the Housing Authority Commission and ratified by the City Council)
- Low income neighborhoods (one each): Eastside (Census Tracts 8.01 and 8.02), Westside (Census Tracts 10 and 11.02), Downtown (Census Tract 9), and Lower Westside (Census Tract 12.04)

Historically, it has been difficult to fill all positions on this committee, especially the low income neighborhood representatives. Applicants from these four categories (Eastside Neighborhood, Downtown Neighborhood, Westside Neighborhood and Lower Westside Neighborhood) have expressed similar concerns as applicants for the three community center advisory committees - namely that they are not fully comfortable in coming up to the podium in Council Chambers during the formal Council meeting to interview. As a result, staff is recommending that applicants from the four low income neighborhoods be allowed to interview either at a City Council meeting or in front of the Council Subcommittee for Community Center Advisory Committee Interviews established a few years ago for the three neighborhood centers. This alternative would encourage more participation by residents in the low-income neighborhood categories.

The proposed resolution amends the interview process as described above. No changes in membership, terms or organization are proposed.

PREPARED BY: David Gustafson, Assistant Community Development
Director/Housing and Redevelopment Manager/SLG

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Casey, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office